



voedsel en waren autoriteit

**It's a long way to transparency:
Points of interest, problems, pitfalls and
possibilities**

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Transparency of the VWA

- Public policy principle: enforcement agencies
- Mission of the VWA
- Publication of control data
- Consultations
- Marginal notes of the VWA



Public policy principles : transparency of enforcement agencies

The main points are :

- publication of the enforcement principles and annual programmes;
- control data must report to the business;
- recommended :
active publication of control data and business names.



Public policy principles : transparency mission of the VWA

- Experimental and leading position
- The letter to the House of Representatives of States of General (23rd February 2006)
- Legal base: WOB (government information act)
- General framework of the letter
- Consumers and businesses
- Active publication of control data: the future of the VWA



Transparency mission of the VWA

Two objectives :

- to provide transparency : control data are published as 'neutral' information to enable market choices of all parties (including consumers);
- to increase levels of compliance.



Transparency mission of the VWA

Publication of control data:

- name and address of the business;
- date;
- objective;
- name of product and country of origin (pesticide residue);
- results in general terms: in compliance or not;
- reaction or view of the business.

No compliance of residue of pesticide:

- the name and concentration of the residue of pesticide;
- food safety risk.



Transparency mission of the VWA

General framework: special items

- All control data are published whether the outcome is positive or negative
- Control data are public for a period of time
(to a maximum of three controls or two years)
- Businesses must have the opportunity to give their view or reaction
- Context information is published on the website to prevent misuse



Pilot residue of pesticides

- Risk based sampling
- Standard sampling of distribution centre of retailers
- Special (extra) sampling of certain shops of retailers
- Standard sampling of wholesalers and importers
- HACCP responsibility of buying good products
- Key to the control data via the name of business
- No key via the product name



Control data : Residue of pesticides

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Openbare controlegegevens

Controle op residuen van bestrijdingsmiddelen

Bedrijf:
WESSELS GROOTVERBRUIK
P V M GELDERLAND ROOD 14 G
6666 LT HETEREN

Controledatum:
18-07-2006

Producten:
 chinese kool, amsoi, choisam

Aanduiding:
chinese kool

Herkomst:
Nederland

Controleresultaat:
Voldoet met betrekking tot residuen

spitskool
 witte kool

Reactie bedrijf:

Sluit venster



Control data : Residue of pesticide (detail)

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spitskool

witte kool

Reactie bedrijf:



Consultations of consumers and businesses

- Support of **consumers** (want more!)

Businesses

- Supporting by principles transparency
- Resisting the way of publication of the VWA
- Trying to influence the policy principles
- Are anxious of disadvantage of transparency



Marginal notes of the VWA

- No trust in quality and uniformity of the controls
- The risk based sampling results in a relative negative image of the reality
- Risk of special attention for negative control data
- A negative control data may be misused by the media or other parties
- Still naming and shaming



Anxiety of business

- Costs and investments related to publishing control data
- VWA new principles of the future: transparency
- Cooperation with enforcements agencies: one visit per year of all agencies
- Budget reductions and more selective enforcement
- The information of the website has to be read and understood
- How to get the confidence of the businesses which don't like our transparency